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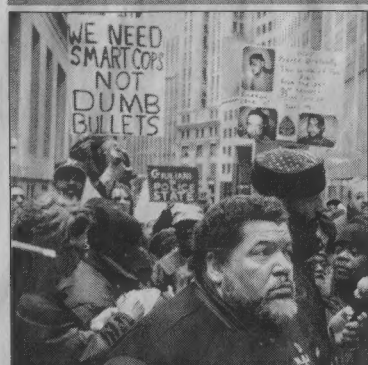
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March 10 - March 16, 1999  
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Vol. 16, No. 22

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Angry protesters rallied on Wall Street demanding justice from the police department and the state of New York.



Rev. Al Sharpton promises weekly protest and civil unrest until justice is served

## 'Step down Giuliani'

By Lucy Sanchez  
and Carl Chase

NEW YORK — Thousands of demonstrators called for New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani to step down or at least submit to the people's cry for justice for victims of police brutality.

The angry throngs followed the Revs. Al Sharpton, and Herbert Daughty to Wall Street and Broadway, the crossroads of the world's financial system. "Just like Martin Luther King upset the commercial district of Birmingham we've come to disrupt the market of Wall Street," Sharpton said.

"They said we'd get tired after three days," he added. "It's been a month, and we're here from all over the Tri-state area. We are here because some of you contributed to (Giuliani's) political campaign," Sharpton said to the

lunch-time assembly gathered outside the New York Stock Exchange. Many of them cited the killing of African immigrant Amadou Diallo and the lack of appropriate response from the city.

"We're going to turn up the pressure. We will have civil disobedience in this city, and we will fight until there is justice. We're going King-style," Sharpton said before sitting down in a nearby intersection to deliberately get arrested.

The unarmed Diallo was shot 19 times by five plain-clothes NYPD officers. Sharpton noted that 30 days had passed since the killing and the officers still weren't arrested. "They say wait. How long can we wait?" he said.

The crowd included activists, Wall Street professionals and concerned citizens. "They need to bring the issues out here," said a Wall Street reinsurance company

examiner named Marilyn. "Let people here be aware of what's going on. They need to do this every week."

Outside Trinity Church, police were tightly gripping their PR-24 nightsticks as they surrounded Sharpton, Daughty and several associates who sat in the street and willingly and defiantly waited for the grand symbolism of their pending arrest.

"Why do they need riot gear?" asked a 35-year-old mother from Brooklyn. "It's mostly women out here."

"The protests will go on until Giuliani is behind bars," said Dino Tasova, a 68-year-old artist from Brooklyn. "He is turning the city into Berlin. (New York) has united much more," said the Croatian immigrant, who is white. "Thanks to him, people are coming together against police brutality and injustice. We don't want a police state."

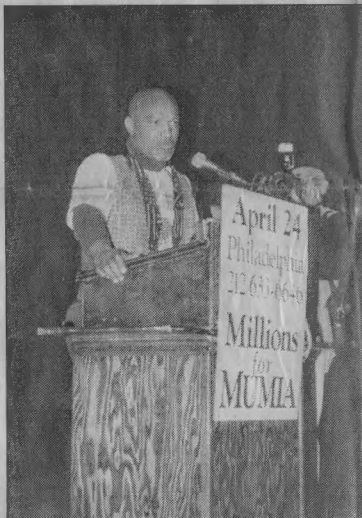
## An evening of justice for political activist Mumia Abu-Jamal and Amadou Diallo

NEW YORK — An overflowing crowd of 1,700 people jammed New York's historic Town Hall theater Feb. 26 for "An Evening of Justice for Mumia Abu-Jamal." Celebrations, human rights advocates, labor leaders and former political prisoners took the stage on behalf of Abu-Jamal, an African-American political prisoner and award-winning journalist on Pennsylvania's death row.

Speakers said Abu-Jamal must receive a new trial and no death warrant must be signed by Gov. Tom Ridge. They urged the enthusiastic crowd to become organizers for the massive "Millions for Mumia" demonstrations planned for Philadelphia and San Francisco on April 24.

Actor Ossie Davis, who kicked off the meeting with a dramatic reading from Abu-Jamal's book "Live from Death Row," said, "We're going to go to Philadelphia in the millions" on April 24. "We need not only to get ourselves there, we need to raise money to bring other people there."

Other speakers included Pam Africa, Leonard Weinglass, Ramsey Clark, Safiya Bukhari, Dick Gregory, Dennis Rivera, Maude LeBlanc, Geronimo Ji Jaga (Pratt), Rafael Cancel Miranda, Michael Tariff Warren, Leslie Feinberg, Ashanti Chinwene, Sally O'Brien, Bernard White, Ron Kuby, Leslie Jones, C.



Former Black Panther Geronimo Ji Jaga Pratt



Political prisoner Rafael Cancel Miranda inspired the crowd.



Distraught mother held photos of her son Jovan Gonzalez during the Wall Street rally. Gonzalez was a victim of police brutality.



Rev. Herbert Daughty praises the crowd for gathering on the cold, rainy day and successfully paralyzing the financial capital of the nation.

## Racial profiling infuriates New Jersey residents

By Lucy Sanchez  
Staff Writer

New Jersey community leaders and citizens are fired up. The latest disruption was caused by the Superintendent of State Police, Col. Carl Williams. His racially charged remarks reinforced stereotypical images of minorities and drugs. The community has declared a state of national emergency on the State Police Dept. and has demanded immediate attention.

Two days after Gov. Christie Whitman was alerted of the statement she fired Williams. However, this was not enough for the outraged community members. "His views are dastardly, his thoughts are ill and sickened, and he's unfit to hold such a critical, important office," Democrat LeRoy D. Jones told the AP. "He's a racist in the worst kind because he doesn't even know it."

Rev. Reginald Jackson of the Council of Black Ministers and Jones have taken an active stand against the profiling case. "Stop and think about the thousands and thousands of minorities that have been stopped on the turnpike because of their race. That is absolutely unconstitutional," stated Jackson.

During a public forum on police brutality and racial profiling, held at New Jersey City University, Junius Williams stated that people have been hyped up to believe that blacks are the primary cause of the drug problem in America even though statistics from the United States Dept. of Justice can prove the contrary. The civil rights attorney and former president of the National Bar Association stated that blacks are approximately 12 percent of the national

population and 14 percent of drug users. However, they are 35 percent of those arrested, 55 percent of those convicted and 75 percent of those sentenced. Furthermore, 80 percent of whites consume crack, and 50 percent of them use crack/cocaine. However, blacks and Latinos represent 80 percent of those in jail for the sale/usage of crack/cocaine.

Former Hudson County police officer Richard Rivera stated that the burden of responsibility should fall on everyone. "The community needs to get involved in holding their police officers accountable and good police officers need to stop closing their eyes because they don't realize that they are just hurting themselves," stated Rivera.

Rivera risked his life and his job by turning in corrupt officers to the FBI. Since then nine officers have pleaded guilty to racketeering, tax evasion, conspiracy and violation of civil rights. One officer just pleaded guilty to violating the civil rights of over 125 Latinos.

Sen. Frank Lautenberg and Rep. Robert Menendez have stepped to the forefront urging the Dept. of Justice to expedite their investigation. In addition, the NAACP has called on Pres. Clinton and U.S. Attorney General Janet Reno to take immediate action.

"Make no mistake, this is a national State of emergency that requires the swift and immediate intervention by Pres. Clinton to stop the escalation of apparent police brutality and the excessive use of deadly force in communities of color," said NAACP President and CEO Kweisi Mfume.

Many of the community residents and leaders are furious and frustrated. They are hungry



Rev. Jackson and Assemblyman LeRoy Jones address racial profiling at the State House in Trenton.

for solutions and tired of injustice. Through continuous mass mobilization and organization community members vowed to keep pressure on the government until a thorough investigation of the police force has been completed. They also suggested the police force devote more time to sensitivity, ethics, cultural awareness training in order to create better community-police relationships.

## Legislators putting brakes on AG's supreme court nomination

By Carl Chase  
Staff Writer

A growing number of the state legislature's black, Hispanic and Democratic members won't support Attorney General Peter Verniero as Gov. Christie Whitman's Supreme Court nominee until the Justice Department exonerates him in its probe of racial profiling by State Police profiling, legislators said.

Gov. Christie Whitman's March 1 firing of State Police Superintendent Col. Carl Williams for racist remarks should have sent a sobering message to the rank-and-file troopers, said Democratic legislators and members representing minority populations.

"Both Williams and Verniero are equally at fault for premeditation on the growing litany of profiling complaints, yet one is out of a job and the other is poised for one of the most coveted positions in the state," Assemblyman Leroy Jones wrote on March 2 to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Senate Minority Leader Sen. Richard Codey (D-West Orange) urged Senate President Donald DiFrancesco (R-Scotch Plains) to hold off on the confirmation vote, which could be made as early as March 18.

Recent statistics showed 75 percent of those arrested on the New Jersey Turnpike are minorities. A 1998 study by a Temple University law professor found racial profiling on the road and a Gloucester County case showed blacks were targeted on its southern end. But Verniero and the State Police maintain no such policy exists.

"This man has presided over a closed investigation when the spotlight needed to come on," state Sen. Wayne R. Bryant (D-Camden) said of Verniero, who is responsible for both the police force and the ongoing internal investigation into profiling charges.

Whitman "sees no reason to delay the Senate vote, and she hopes that it will go forward," Whitman spokeswoman Wendy Petrella said.

As President Clinton arrived in Newark on March 3, Assemblywoman Nellie Pou (D-Paterson) and other members of the Legislative Black and Latino Caucus asked him to help speed the process.

Clinton, who has been following the controversy, assured the group that U.S. Deputy Attorney General Eric Holder looked forward to meeting with concerned legislators on March 9 in Washington.

# Community Calendar

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10

**MONTCLAIR** — The North New Jersey Astronomical Group presents a discussion on carbon astronomy featuring cartoonist Kevin Conors at Montclair State University's Richardson Hall beginning at 8 p.m. (973) 680-8420.

**ELIZABETH** — The Union County Division on Aging will hold an outreach meeting for senior citizens at Peterstown Community Center beginning at 11:30 a.m. (908) 527-4419 or 1-888-280-8226.

**PLAINFIELD** — Swan Galleries presents landscape painter S. Allyn Schaeffer displaying some of his award winning painting beginning at 9:30 a.m. (908) 756-1707.

**NEWARK** — Essex County College presents a Women's History Month Celebration featuring Galea Abdur-Razzaq at the school's Birch Theater beginning at 11:30 a.m. (973) 877-9535.

## THURSDAY, MARCH 11

**CALDWELL** — Caldwell College presents a music series on swing bands featuring the Gentle Winds Orchestra beginning at 8 p.m. (973) 618-3000.

**NEW YORK** — The School of Visual Arts (SVA) will hold an art exhibit on unusual science creations at Westside Gallery beginning at 5 p.m. (212) 592-2010.

**NEWARK** — The Newark Museum After Hours Program presents the 25th Newark Black Film Festival featuring the screening of Julie Dash's *Daughters of the Dust* beginning at 6 p.m. (973) 596-8638.

**NEW BRUNSWICK** — The State Theater presents the off-stage production of *Beethiv* beginning at 8 p.m. (732) 246-7469.

## FRIDAY, MARCH 12

**CRANFORD** — Union County College will host an art exhibit of New York City's street life through the eyes of artist Joan Arbellar at Union County College's Tomasulo Gallery beginning at 7 p.m. (908) 709-7503.

**SCOTCH PLAINS** — Union County Vocational-Technical Schools will hold the grand opening of the Sales Shop in Baxel Hall beginning at 12 p.m. (908) 889-UCVT(8289).

**ELIZABETH** — The Elizabeth Playhouse the stage production of *No Time For Comedy* beginning at 7:30 p.m. (908) 355-0177.

**PLAINFIELD** — The Plainfield Senior

Citizens Center will hold a discussion on women's history in the U.S. beginning at 10:30 a.m. (908) 753-3506.

## SATURDAY, MARCH 13

**CALDWELL** — Caldwell College will hold open registration for adults interested in sociology and criminal justice beginning at 9 a.m. (973) 618-3000.

**NEWARK** — WBGO will accept donations of any types of musical instruments at WBGO studios. For more information on time call (973) 646-6940.

## MONDAY, MARCH 15

**NEW YORK** — The Hispanic Organization of Latin Actors will hold its 25th Anniversary celebration at the Players Club beginning at 6 p.m. (212) 691-6988.

**PLAINFIELD** — The Plainfield Senior Citizens Center will discuss the Community Health Law Project services and programs for seniors beginning at 10:30 a.m. (908) 753-3506.

## WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

**NEW YORK** — The Studio Museum in Harlem presents a discussion and exhibit on the works of Richard Powell beginning at 6:30 p.m. (212) 864-4500.

## FRIDAY, MARCH 19

**CALDWELL** — Caldwell College presents pianist Jonnie Polk and soprano singer Laura Greenwald beginning at 8 p.m. (973) 618-3000.

**NEWARK** — Ujima Mission to Africa presents the Third Annual African Heritage Awards Banquet at The Mediterranean Manor beginning at 6:30 p.m. (973) 746-3070.

**PLAINFIELD** — The Plainfield Senior Citizens Center will hold a birthday for seniors born on the month of March beginning at 1:30 p.m. (908) 753-3506.

## SATURDAY, MARCH 20

**ELIZABETH** — The City of Elizabeth Department of Recreation presents the Fourth Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Carteret Park beginning at 9:30 a.m. (908) 820-4220.

## MONDAY, MARCH 22

**JERSEY CITY** — New Jersey City University will hold its Second Annual "Respect" Forum at the school's Hepturn Hall beginning at 10 a.m. (201) 200-3426.

## Raving reviews given to urban radio stations



Recently the City of Newark honored Inner City Broadcasting with an awards gala at the New Jersey Performing Arts Center in Newark. The event acknowledged Inner City Broadcasting for its commitment to providing top quality programs for the African American Community in the New York-New Jersey area. Inner City Broadcasting owns WLBI-AM and WBLI-FM. (L-R) Kae Thompson, President of Inner City Broadcasting, Pierre Sutton, Lawrence Goldman of NJPAC, and Newark Mayor Sharpe James.

## New Jersey's CEO of Bell Atlantic celebrates with The Children's Home



President and CEO of Bell Atlantic New Jersey William Freeman (right) was on hand to celebrate Black History Month at The Children's Home in Mount Holly. Freeman talk was part of a series of lectures at the school to celebrate Black History Month. Freeman told the kids to reach high for their dreams and don't settle for less in life. Pictured with Freeman is Eleanor Miller, director of development for The Children's Home. The Children's Home is a non-profit organization that provides educational and psychosocial services to abused and neglected youth. It's program serves 40 boys and girls ages 9-17 and its residential program serves 41 boys ages 9-17.

## Union County women saluted for 28 years of service



Freeholder Chester Holmes (center) presented Eve Bridges (left) with a resolution from the Union County Board of Chosen Freeholders following a Black History Month program at the Railway Library. Freeholder Holmes thanked her for all she has done through the years. Looking on with pride is her daughter Deborah.

## Caribbean Studies expert speaks at Bloomfield College



Dr. Adrian McFarlane (center), a visiting fellow at Oxford University and a professor of philosophy at Hartwick College, visited Bloomfield College last week to discuss "African American/Caribbean American Histories: Their Differences and Similarities." The event was sponsored by the Westminster Foundation at Bloomfield College. Pictured from left are: Doris Brown, Westminster Foundation board member; Rev. Richard Crocker, interim chaplain at Bloomfield College; Rev. Nancy M. Schluter, chaplain at Rider University and Westminster Foundation board member; Linda C. Epps, vice president for Student Affairs at Bloomfield College; and John F. Noonan, president of Bloomfield College.

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## Nation Briefs

### JESSE JACKSON LEADS RALLY TO PROTEST POLICE SHOOTING

RIVERSIDE, Calif. (AP) — The Rev. Jesse Jackson led about 500 people at a rally and march through city streets once again asking authorities to fully investigate what he called the "firing squad" that shot a young black woman to death as she sat in her car.

Yvonne Miller was shot 12 times by four police officers early Dec. 28 at a gas station in a shooting that has inflamed racial tension in this city about 60 miles east of Los Angeles.

"We don't seek revenge or retribution. We seek remedy," Jackson said.

The county district attorney's office is conducting a grand jury investigation to determine whether charges should be filed against the officers, and the FBI is making a preliminary inquiry to determine whether there should be a full civil rights investigation.

### RADIO SHOCK JOCK "GREASEMAN" SUSPENDED FOR RACE-RELATED REMARK

WASHINGTON (AP) — Radio shock jock Doug Tracht, known as "Greaseman," has been suspended indefinitely for a race-related remark made on station WAWR-FM.

The station's general manager, Sarah Taylor, announced that she suspended Tracht without pay.

Tracht noted that the Grammy Award ceremony was a celebration of that evening and played a portion of a song by Lauryn Hill, a young black hip-hop artist nominated for 10 Grammys.

Then he commented, "No wonder people dig them behind trucks."

The reference was to the torture and death in Texas of James Byrd Jr., a black man decapitated while being dragged behind a pickup truck.

Taylor stated she "deplored the comment and was appalled by it."

### AMERICAN MUSLIMS BEGIN PILGRIMAGE SEASON

WASHINGTON — On March 25, Muslims in America and around the world will begin observing activities associated with the annual Hajj, or pilgrimage to Mecca. Hajj is one of the "five pillars" of the Islamic faith. (The other "pillars" include a declaration of faith, daily prayers, offering regular charity, and fasting during the month of Ramadan.) Hajj activities take place over six days (March 29-31) at the Islamic Lunar month of Dhu'l-Hijjah which begins March 18. Pilgrimage is a once-in-a-lifetime obligation for those Muslims who have the physical and financial ability to undertake the journey. It is also a form of worship that involves the entire being: body, mind and soul.

### CONVICTED CHURCH LEADER STILL HAS LONG ROAD AHEAD

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. (AP) — With a possible seven-year prison sentence ahead of him, the Rev. Henry Lyons, convicted of racketeering and grand theft, pondered his uncertain future in a safe haven — his church. The president of the National Baptist Convention USA, who was found guilty of swindling millions of dollars last week, spent the weekend preparing for his congregation at Bethel Metropolitan Church in St. Petersburg.

Lyons was expected back in Pinellas County for court officials to begin a pre-sentence investigation. He faces three to seven years in prison under state sentencing guidelines. A date for sentencing has not been set.

Free on bond until his sentencing, Lyons was allowed to go to funeral services Sunday in Gainesville for his 81-year-old grandmother, who died last week.

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## Celebrities, political leaders at Town Hall speak out on police brutality

continued from page one

Leslie Jones, C. Clark Kissing, and Monica Moorehead.

Peter Seeger led the audience in song. Musical performances were also given by the Boukman Ekparyans and Rhythms of Aqua. Larry Lawrence of the John Brown Society presented Mumia Abu-Jamal with the group's highest award, the gold medal. Accepting for Abu-Jamal was Pam Africa of International Concerned Family and Friends of Mumia, who was introduced as "the heart and soul of this struggle."

Many Town Hall speakers compared the case of Abu-Jamal, who was framed for his untiring fight against police brutality, and the brutal Feb. 4th slaying of immigrant worker Amador Dialo by four white cops in New York. An intimidation campaign by members of the New York City Patrolmen's Benevolent Association (PBA) failed miserably, said Town Hall organizers. A counter demonstration by PBA members drew only 50 people.

Abu-Jamal, a former Black

Panther and one-time president of the Philadelphia Association of Black Journalists, has been on death row for 17 years. In 1981 Abu-Jamal was accused of killing Philadelphia police officer Daniel Faulkner. He has always maintained his innocence, and supporters say he was the target of a frame-up because of his political beliefs and outspoken opposition to racism and police brutality.

His trial was marred by judicial and prosecutorial misconduct. In October, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court turned down Abu-Jamal's appeal for a new trial. Speakers at the Town Hall rally said a new trial must be held so that Abu-Jamal's defense team, headed by civil-rights lawyer Leonard Weinglass, can present compelling evidence of Abu-Jamal's innocence.

Monica Moorehead, a national coordinator of "Millions for Mumia," said, "Mumia's case has shone an international spotlight on the racist death penalty and police brutality in the U.S. From his tiny cell on death row, Mumia has continued to speak out against all forms of injustice,



Audience members listen intently at the Town Hall meeting for Mumia Abu-Jamal.

inspiring millions of people around the world."

Moorehead said: "Tonight's meeting showed there is broad support to demand a new trial for Mumia. On April 24th, peo-

ple from all walks of life will come together for the massive 'Millions for Mumia' demonstrations in Philadelphia and San Francisco.

"This is the time for all peo-

ple of conscience, all people who hate racism and who believe in justice, to stand together and make their voices heard. Mumia Abu-Jamal must not be executed. He must receive a new trial."

## Clinton raises millions for Torricelli

By Carl Chase  
Staff Writer

NEWARK — President Bill Clinton was in New Jersey for the first time in over a year when he told a Newark audience, "I want to congratulate everyone who has anything to say about this building this wonderful Performing Arts Center."

From the main stage at the NJPAC, he thanked Torricelli for his unwavering support of his presidency, which came in handy over the past year. "Bob Torricelli has been my friend in good times and bad times. I'll never forget it."

Clinton called on Americans to bolster the Social Security and Medicare from the federal surplus. "We ought to put first things first," he said.

He asked support for his federal proposal to encourage investment in inner cities similar to a program that spurs foreign investment. "If it works overseas, it will work for you."

Clinton and the senator have made great strides that continue to help feed the area's current vitality, Newark Mayor Sharpe James said. "From putting police

officers on our streets to creating new jobs to fighting for Social Security and Medicare, Newark and New Jersey are on a roll."

Even as pickets outside yelled "shame on you" at supporters and blamed Clinton for America's moral decline, Torricelli was clearly gratified on that March 9 night.

Torricelli — who voted against impeachment last month despite his displeasure with Clinton's behavior regarding the Monica Lewinsky affair — has remained among Clinton's staunchest allies on mainly Con-

stitutional grounds.

Torricelli has called the impeachment campaign a "flawed prosecutor's undirected pursuit of a duly-elected President."

The President showed his gratitude by contributing his own celebrity to a grand triumph for Torricelli: the thousand-dollar-a-plate gala raised \$2.15 million to fund the senator's bid for reelection. About 95 percent of the 2,000-plus supporters were New Jerseyans, aides said.

Torricelli thanked the audi-

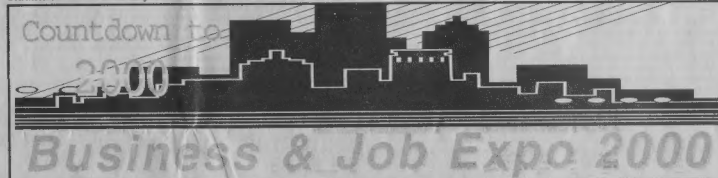
ence of about 1,500 for their overwhelming support. "You aren't involved in politics simply for yourselves. You're here for a country who needs you — and that's what makes you special."

He said the country is enjoying enormous prosperity, citing a 6 percent annual growth of the economy and the "best employment records in 40 years."

However, many public schools still require expensive repairs, families still lack day care and seniors need Medicare, he said. He called for cooperation from Republicans for what's

left of Clinton's term. "You do no damage to Bill Clinton if you deny us the next two years of productive (national) leadership. You'll only do damage to the United States."

The national leaders appeared after actor Kevin Spacey and two very hard acts to follow: Gospel singer Cissy Houston's rendition of the National Anthem, and disco queen Gloria Gaynor. Gaynor, a Newark native, sang "Never Can Say Goodbye" and what might be Clinton's theme: "I Will Survive."



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### Tentative Agenda

#### Opening Session:

• Business trends for the new millennium

**Luncheon: Topic and speaker to be announced**

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# Getting to the root of evil

People are not born evil. They are taught it. People are not born racist, sexist, homophobic, profit hungry, self-centered and unrighteous. They are products of these self-destructive behaviors and ideologies that are perpetuated in our society today. It is much easier to do harm than it is to do good. It is even harder for the good to stand up to those who are maliciously devouring the little bit of integrity, respect, and dignity that is left in this world.

Therefore, let's explore where these thoughts developed, how they are nourished and most of all how to eradicate them. Our global structure has been built by several world powers who kill to expand and control other land, people and economies. Trillions of innocent men, women and children have died in these battles to obtain a man-made status which has brainwashed people into believing that they must buy nature. That they can claim nature.

We have a produced a global society where those things which are produced naturally such as food, land, and water must be traded for a monetary unit. We have produced a society in which there are government endorsed and enforced wars to protect and expand territory to control and exploit the land and the natives in it. We have produced nuclear weapons which can annihilate the human extinction level as we know it today. We have allowed millions of children and babies to die of hunger when their is a surplus of food in our lands. We have allowed governments to send structures to practices genocide to maintain a 'God-given' manifest destiny and purification of the races; when if we all did our homework we would know that there is only one race and that the Nile River runs through all of your blood.

There is a lot more people who know and practice good than those who practice evil. It is up to us to bear the burden and eliminate their ignorance. It takes a wise person to admit his/her own faults and a brave person to help others with theirs. Anyone another person or group is being oppressed, discriminated against or defamed that we all share. Anyone someone dies a reckless death than we slowly commit suicide on the human race. Anyone we allow children to hold firearms and inject their innocent bodies with needles, or believe that we can control human reproduction with fertility drugs, clone young, or suck life out of mothers with vaccines we have created our own destruction.

There must be a revitalization of humane treatment and universal respect for all forms. We must start this process within ourselves for we are all at fault. We all fall short of perfection. We are all flawed. We are all imperfect. We are human so that is expected. However, what should not be accepted is the belief that it is all right to maintain these ignorant practices and continue living in the dark. Just because a system is in practice does not mean that it is the perfect one. We must change and change any source of power that is corrupt in its intentions. So let's start by loving ourselves, our neighbors and our future or die knowing that we contributed to a whithering society that will explode due to a universal struggle for money, power and greed.

# 'Colored Fountains' coming to the internet

By John William Templeton

There is a reason that the Creator gave us at least six senses. At any moment that we can be jerked up hearing the moving story on the radio of a senior citizen who cried when she saw a photo of white and colored fountains while visiting the Birmingham Civil Rights Museum, my eyes bulged over something else on my computer screen.

On Feb. 24, a group of big companies and 70 "major" universities are unveiling their new private Internet with high-speed bandwidth that can handle practically any computer application at speeds thousands of times faster than the rest of us. Another federal-financed consortium is building a high-speed Internet II for research universities. Even in a country like North Carolina could understand the connection. Originally, the Internet was not supposed to be accessible to the public. It was constructed and designed when only big companies and federally-funded university researchers had access to computers. At the time of the Vietnam War, it was thought that it could survive because it did not have centralized controls. Now, it has far outstripped the purposes that it was designed when only big companies and federally-funded university researchers had access to computers. At the time of the Vietnam War, it was thought that it could survive because it did not have centralized controls. Now, it has far outstripped the purposes that it was designed when only big companies and federally-funded university researchers had access to computers.

On the Internet, there is the potential for everyone to be equal. Clearly, this is not assistance with American history. So, rather than building high-speed links to grade schools, community colleges, libraries, recreation centers, churches and homes, both the federal government and this private consortium want their Internet. And, you or I would be able to access it.

You see they are far more worried about your having the same information they have than any nuclear bomb.

The stakes are bigger than Bull Connor could imagine. With the current, relatively accessible Internet, the impact of the Internet will amount to a \$3 trillion loss of income for Black and Latino households due to lack of access to jobs, business opportunities and equity

ownership in high growth firms.

Let the access to science, engineering, research and development be further concentrated in the hands of an increasingly wealthy elite, and those trends will grow worse. In California, home of most of the high technology industry and the high-paying Internet jobs, a new report concludes that the gap between the rich and poor grew wider during the economic rebound than during the recession earlier this decade.

The universities behind these exclusive networks are the same ones that are at the forefront of the attacks on affirmative action, meaning that students who do not attend these universities will be at a big disadvantage.

The Congressional Black and Hispanic Caucuses should halt these efforts unless they grant equal access to historically black and predominantly Latino campuses along with tribal colleges, and utilize the technology to allow grade schools without telecommunications to have access to the top academic resources.

President Clinton and Vice President Gore should be held accountable for their role in catering to technology executives. They've already discriminated minority ownership in telecommunications. Now, new report Telecommunications Act of 1996. This new Internet is the epitome of "white privilege" that the president's race initiative denies.

Federal resources should be banned from creating exclusive networks that create the digital equivalent of "White" and "Colored" fountains.

This is another reason why the new lawsuit against the University of California on behalf of Black and Latino students, who scored 4.0 averages, but were denied admission to the University of California, is now being revealed as an effort to carve out an "elite eye of the needle" through which all but a few white students can pass.

The tremendous wealth being generated through the Internet.

John William Templeton is executive editor of "Griot," the African American, African and Caribbean business daily. Contact him at askat-blackmoney.com

Blacks:

# The forgotten victims of the Holocaust

by Barbara Reynolds

Every Black History month there is a flurry of stories about little known facts and folktales from black rodeo stars to Negro baseball teams to the Black Muslims who built the Egyptian pyramids.

So, why not the story of the "forgotten victims" of the Holocaust? Sooner or later Hollywood or the networks will discover the boxes of material sitting on the shelves in the Holocaust Museum and wonder like I do why the story of the thousands of blacks who were executed, used in experiments, sterilized or gassed in Nazi Germany remains such a secret?

Volunteers have been written on Hitler's latest released not only in the murder of Jews, but also of Gypsies, Poles, the retarded and disabled, any group that stood in the way of an "Aryan" superior race. Yet, there is virtually no discussion of how Hitler treated blacks, who had the misfortune to either be born in Germany or be captured during World War II.

In the pages of articles written by scholars, such as Robert W. Kesting, in the "Journal of Negro History," the stories about the black victims come alive.

Kesting who investigated Nazi war crimes wrote about how "100 Negroes during the war were executed only they committed the crime of digging their own graves"; how orders were given by the SS infantry to take "all the Jews, Gypsies, or known 1,000 black Sengalese soldiers used as slave laborers at a factory at Fritzlar, Germany were executed on the grounds of the camp before, and after the executions. These facts were revealed during an investigation conducted by war crimes investigators and anthropologists in 1945-1945." On May 4, 1944, three colored American pilots were hanged in the same square after being taken from a Budapest jail.

Some of the blacks in Nazi Germany were U.S. prisoners of war, captured either African American soldiers or Rhineland Maltese, the offspring of German women and

African soldiers who were part of the French occupation of the Rhineland in World War I. There had also been mixing in some of the German-occupied African colonies, such as Namibia.

The African soldiers also fathered some 800 black children, who were referred to as "Rhineland Bastards." Race-mixing was denounced by the Germans, and when Hitler came to power laws on racial purity were passed. As the children became childbearing age they were either sterilized or died in the camps under the euthanasia program that was designed to exterminate those who were considered genetically inferior. "In later years no trace of the 800 children could be found," wrote Len Cooper, a Washington reporter writing on the Holocaust.

Cooper wrote that it was not uncommon for German anthropologists to maintain private collections of human skeletons. The anthropologists would enter sacred burial grounds and ransack the graves for artifacts that could be put on display in museums.

Cooper also wrote of how German armies used to invade the Southwest colonies of Africa, blockading food and water from getting in, resulting in the massacre of thousands. "German policy in the colony stated that blacks had no right to live and that blacks had no useful purpose."

Although the story of blacks in the Holocaust is sadly being neglected, the newspaper of Wertheil, Belgium remembered those black Americans who died there at the hands of the Nazis.

In 1989, a monument was dedicated in their honor. All of this information not only because of historic accuracy, but also because correct information helps build bridges to better understanding. Nazi hatred of Jews was built on the hatred of racism against blacks. The German-occupied African colonies.

Just as blacks and Jews were linked in their suffering, they were also linked in the liberation of the Jews from Nazi Germany. U.S. black soldiers were among the first fighting units who liberated thousands of emaciated Jews from the death camps.

Dr. Barbara Reynolds is a syndicated columnist.

# Searching for an African American electoral strategy

By Dr. Conrad W. Worrill

I have stated repeatedly in this column that politics is "the science of who gets what, when, where, and most importantly how. This is an important concept for the African American to remember. It is important because the black political empowerment movement in this country is right for the purpose of acquisition of political power that will provide what Dr. Anderson Thompson describes as the African American great goal: "the right to the greatest number of African people to participate in the world."

With the host of political issues facing the African American community, the African American people need political power.

The only way that we can gain Black political power in America is to achieve the highest level of black unity. In other words, in order for African American principle to become a reality for all in this country we must strive for a level of Black political unity. It is elected the African American people and stand that when our elected representatives do not represent their interests they do not and will not support them, as evidenced by the recent elections across the country.

Our African American political leaders must not forget that without the support of the African American masses, their ability to represent us in the attainment of black political power will be limited.

Black unity in American politics is as old as "baseball, hot dogs, and apple pie." All ethnic groups in this society have acquired some measure of political power have done so by sticking together when one of their own ethnic groups for a political purpose. The Irish, Polish, Italians, and Jewish groups, etc., are all outstanding examples of this fact in American political and African political history.

Until recently, this has not been the case in the African American community. In American politics of this century, African Americans elected to public office have tended to represent the interest of outside-white-power-groups. The trend needs to change. We should not support those African Americans seeking political office who exemplify this kind of behavior. We should send them a warning shot by voting them out of office.

It must be repeated over and over again that the great political

movements and battles that African American people have taken since the 1860s have been and are important to the development of our struggles in America. The major outcome of this movement is being used for a total wipe out of the white political power structure of America. If we are going to seriously struggle for the continuation of the fight for political empowerment, we will need a new kind of black political unity movement throughout the United States.

As African Americans, we need to take an inventory of the current political scene in terms of how the white ethnic groups are fighting vigorously to put forward their political agendas. It should be clear that as black people we need our own black political agenda that speaks to the collective needs of the black community.

The challenge of developing a Black Political Agenda requires that we take up for the purpose of the National Black United Front / NBUF Constitution that states we must deliberately formulate the conservative, moderate, reform, radical nationalist, and revolutionary concerns into a dynamic agenda that speaks to our collective interest as a people.

In this regard, the NBUF Constitution elaborates further on this issue by suggesting that it is important that our respective organizations, clubs, political factions, and individual leaders recognize that none of us (individually) represents the black community. Collectively considered, however, the various groups and individuals can begin to approximate the general will of the black community, and more reasonably hope to represent the "total black community." If we follow the ideas presented in the NBUF Constitution on the question of building unity, our chances for this occurring will be much greater. All other ethnic groups, especially white ethnic groups, understand this and practice it everyday in their efforts to maintain power, we must also!

Finally, in the words of Frederick Douglass, who reminded us that "Power comes from the barrel without a demand, it never did it ever will." Thus, "Without Struggle there is no progress."

Dr. Conrad W. Worrill is the National Chairman of the National Black United Front (NBUF). E-mail: nbuflc@allways.net

# Africa really matters...doesn't it?

By Asika Muhammad

THE WHITE HOUSE-drum salute welcoming Ghana's President Jerry Rawlings as he arrived at Blair House in the White State. With the President still Clinton Feb. 24, seems more like Malcolm X Park than Lafayette Park. That same day on Capitol Hill, Rep. Jesse Jackson is telling us that the African trade bill. Former U.N. Ambassador Andrew Young convenes his own press conference and tells a group of print (and broadcast) reporters that "Africa Matters."

A continent away just days before, Vice President Al Gore and his South African counterparts Thabo Mbeki exchange toasts and look to the future. It's like the old days, when Africa really mattered in the lives of Blacks in America, or is it? Anyone listening? Or is everyone talking? Does Africa really matter today?

Yes Africa and Africans may be on the way to becoming victims of our own success.

There was a time when Black folks in America really "threw the book" in the 1970s. Kwanzaa was new and had real meaning in the lives of its adherents, who were young parents with children with African names.

The connection was cultural, emotional even. Nigeria hosted "FESTAC," and a piece of Kente cloth in this country was treasured.

Today, like Kwanzaa, Africa is high on the official agenda. At the same time Africa is fast on its way to being controlled by the neo-conservative and neo-Africans in America.

The generation of children with African names are now themselves parents and just like the fast-food company which years ago featured "fish-Kente" or "nauga-Kente" uniforms for its employees, the African name is once recognized in the 1970s-Shaka, Kwame, Nkechi have mutated right before our eyes into Shakuille and Shakuille.

More and more Black Africans seem to be involved in aspects of public policy toward Africa-the Rev. Leon Sullivan once said to smile down to Shana in May of this year for the fifth annual African-American Summit.

President Bill Clinton traveled to the continent last spring with over 1,000 government officials, corporate ties, and reporters in tow, the National Summit on Africa has held a dozen town meetings all over the country-but oddly,

in my gut, Africa seems to matter less to us than it did 25 years ago. I see the own domestic problems with infatigable violence and our inability to find a villain when all the perpetrators look like the bloodiest Black man in the face of rampant war and killing in Africa.

With the exception of the Sudan where the Islamic government (not Arab, or White), is in a confrontation with rebellious anti-Islamic and Christian ethnic groups, we have been able to assign blame for the bloody African Black carnage that leaves the entire continent and most of its people poor, disorganized and in fear.

Even highly developed South Africa is on the verge of chaos and collapse as the rich have taken their money elsewhere, just when the Black majority has come to power. At the same time South neighbor Zimbabwe appears on the brink of imminent collapse and crisis.

In the East of Africa, more than half a million Hutus and Tutsis have lost their lives in a genocidal war in Rwanda and Burundi which has now spilled to Congo and Uganda.

In the West, more than 100,000 died and 1.5 million are displaced in the seven year war in Liberia. And while the nation has its breath to see if the one-year-old government of President Charles Taylor can hold its own, we expect our ideas of peace and stability, and prosperity to Africa, as really as we are willing to lose the products of our corporate employees.

What Africa really needs is a generation of peace and security, not necessarily African peace and security. The world is a more peaceful place with much interest on the part of Blacks in Africa who effected an entire revolution in the world's only remaining superpower, literally without bloodshed. We can export our ideas of peace and stability, and prosperity to Africa, as really as we are willing to lose the products of our corporate employees.

What Africa really needs is a generation of peace and security, not necessarily African peace and security. The world is a more peaceful place with much interest on the part of Blacks in Africa who effected an entire revolution in the world's only remaining superpower, literally without bloodshed. We can export our ideas of peace and stability, and prosperity to Africa, as really as we are willing to lose the products of our corporate employees.

With Nelson Mandela serving out the last months of his final term in office, where or who is Africa's next moral leader? Is it the continent of Africa, the Continent, from Capetown to Cairo, just a myth? Or is Africa's gold, all that really matters to anyone on the Continent or in the Diaspora?

# Why many whites are still mad at A.I.J.

By Earl Orl Hatcher

The spectacle on the steps at the downtown Los Angeles criminal courts building looked like a scene at World War II. Federalistic masks, banners, and passersby shrieked, yelled, and gave the thumbs down sign as several frenzied members of a Christian fundamentalist group poured out of the building.

O.J. Simpson's Professional Football Hall of Fame plaque and burned two of his football jerseys. They coughed up \$16,000 for the items at a court-ordered auction of Simpson items solely to stage a public spectacle to tell everyone they still believed he got away with murder.

Building from the public arena got from many white passersby many of them still think the same thing. Finding his way to the murder in a civil trial and slapping him with a outrageous judgment was no consolation to them. They still watch in dismay as a cheerleader, and looking Simpson's goals, vacations, and makes public appearances. They are still anguished that Simpson is living comfortably on his pension fund.

They are still angry that Simpson is not in custody of his children, and they feverishly pray that a judge in his upcoming custody hearing will snatch them away from him.

But, mostly they are mad at him for the same reasons they were after he was acquitted.

Black sensationalism. From the moment Nicole Simpson's bloody and mangled body was found much of the media sabbity, and sometimes openly, conveyed the message that Simpson was guilty. Also many media commentators and legal analysts planned the idea that a predominantly white jury in a civil trial would not let him get away this time.

Earl Orl Hatcher is the author of "The Crisis in Black and White," email: eoh144@att.net

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# Religion

CITY NEWS 6

March 10 - March 16, 1999

## RELIGION CALENDAR

### SUNDAY, MARCH 14

**NEWARK** — Bethel Baptist Church will hold an Annual Day celebration featuring Voices of Deliverance beginning at 3:30 p.m. (3/73) 642-4617.

### MONDAY, MARCH 20

**DUNELLEN** — Dunellen United Methodist Church will host its 16th Annual Spring Fling Craft Show beginning at 9 a.m. (9/08) 769-9294.

### FRIDAY, MARCH 26

**PLAINFIELD** — The Church of Living God and The Rose of Sharon Community Church presents the gospel musical drama *The Promise at the Plainfield High School Auditorium* beginning at 7 p.m. (9/08) 226-1449.

### SATURDAY, MARCH 27

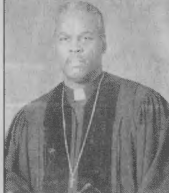
**NEWARK** — New Hope Baptist Church presents an Evening of Inspiration with Susan L. Taylor to benefit New Hope Academy at Hopewell Baptist Church beginning at 6 p.m. (9/73) 242-3305.

## Ordination service at Rose of Sharon

**PLAINFIELD** — The Rose of Sharon Community Church was proud to have a unique ordination service held on Sunday February 21st for two of their finest ministers Minister Doris J. Gray and Minister James H. Hutchins, Sr. The pastor, clergy and board of presbytery will be present.



Minister Doris Gray



Minister James Hutchins

ing the ministers for Christian ministry. Minister Gray joined Rose of Sharon in 1994 and has worked diligently as the initiator for the women's outreach ministry called "Sister to Sister." She teaches in the Witness Protection Program and the new members class. She is also a professor of the Metropolitan Theological Seminary. She is also the Vice President of the Women's Ministers Alliance. She has a Bachelor and Masters Degree in Theology. Minister "Jim", called by everyone at Rose of Sharon is a hard working man of God who has taken on a full time work load the ministry and community. He is the director of the Rose of Sharon Witness Protection Program, a study program to equip Christians for service.

He is also the director of the Rose of Sharon Chapel Out Reach Service. He is the Chairman of the Men's Ministry. He is also a member of the Union County College Educational Opportunity Fund Community Advisory Board. Rose of Sharon counts it a great blessing to have such wonderful laborers in the vineyard and for the Lord.

**ATTENTION!! Churches & Mosques**  
Please send your religious editorials and calendar events to: City News/Attn: Religion Dept.  
P.O. Box 1774  
Plainfield, NJ 07061

## A woman's Bible looks at the virtuous woman T. D. Jakes looks at Proverbs 31

"Perhaps you are feeling left out just now. Maybe you do not feel like a lady of excellence. You may feel like a victim instead of a victor. You may feel like a woman of failure instead of a woman of faith.... To those of you who are simply surviving, flipping the pages of your calendar without living your life, I say there is more.... To those of you who are coasting comfortably through this present season, there is always room for improvement...." T.D. Jakes

**The Virtuous Woman Is Priceless, more precious than any jewel**

"As a jeweler admires, examines, and appreciates every facet of a diamond or a ruby, so the Lord looks at His daughters with the same sense of awe and wonder.... When a son of God takes a virtuous woman as a wife, she is worth more to him than any treasure. The wealth of her spirit cannot be calculated and the riches within her cannot be counted."

**Trustworthy, safe**  
"A man wants a resting place—a place where he can drop his guard and share his deepest hopes, fears, and dreams. You can be that place for him...."

**Doing men good and not evil**  
"Evil often results from unresolved hurt and bitterness.... Jesus is the Healer of hurts and He is able to even the hardest, most evil heart into a garden of love and grace.... (Look for ways to do good and to encourage.)"

**Upright and active**  
"She accepts the realities of life and works hard. She is a cook, a home manager, a real estate buyer, an inventor, a seamstress, a fitness buff! She is a fashion plate...makes sure her family looks sharp...never lacy...active in spirit, soul, and body."

**Confident and kind**  
"not given to false humility, self-abasement, or the 'you're no good' lie of the Devil."

Has tremendous impact on her man's success, inspiring him.

encouraging and bringing out his strengths. She is created to help him and encourage him and call forth his gifts.

**Knows exactly who God made her to be**  
(Not in arrogance) — "arrogance is ugly, but there are few things more attractive than a woman who knows exactly who God has made her to be...."

**Generous/unashamedly a giver**  
"...can share her gifts unashamedly, who can enjoy and celebrate who she is." "She knows that God is a generous God—the giver of every good and perfect gift. She is eager to bless others as He has blessed her...has learned to live with an open hand and an open heart...."

**Sensitive to others**  
"She cares for those around her who do not have as much as she does.... is aware of the needs of others and quick to respond."

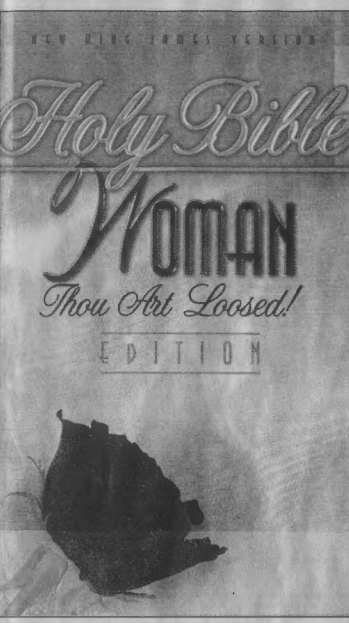
**With a quest to mature in Christ** (Develops strength spiritually, physically, mentally, and emotionally...careful not to leave behind femininity, grace, gentleness, and a tender heart.)

**Decorated with strength and honor**  
"Frees for honor and integrity, remembering that the truth makes her free, and that those who hold on to honor, even if they lose everything else, will always be rich."

**Cheerful and optimistic**  
"She places her future in God's hands...speaking of health, victory, love, and life! His timing is perfect. She faces uncertainty in celebration of what God will do for her!"

**Speaking with wisdom of love, life, and victory.**

(Choosing words carefully, speaking of health, victory, love, and life.) "Speak with wisdom and kindness to everyone you meet, understanding that 'death and life



are in the power of the tongue."

**A Challenge in Prayer for Women:**

The Holy Bible, Woman Thou Art Loosed! Edition encourages women to seek and find the Virtuous Woman within them, and calls

women to boldly seek life's fullest blessing: "I pray that your children will indeed 'rise up and call you blessed' and that you will gain the praise of your husband. Above all, I pray that you will grow in love and in the fear of the Lord. You shall be praised!"

## Jasper's sermons begin a healing process

By Terri Lanford

**JASPER, TX (AP)** — Ministers across this tiny timber town used a white racist's execution sentence to bring comfort and peace to congregations made weary by the nation's scrutiny.

"He is still living and alive," the Rev. Don D. Hardin assured his Mount Olive Missionary Baptist Church followers Sunday. "But love has already won the race."

Although not always mentioned by name, John William King — convicted this week for last year's grisly dragging death of a black man — was incorporated by many Christian leaders during services throughout the weekend.

On Thursday, 11 whites and one black sentenced King to death for the June 7 slaying of James Byrd Jr. a 49-year-old black man found after he dragged behind a pickup truck.

At St. Michael's Catholic Church, the Rev. Ron Fohsage spoke of change and forgiveness.

"We're going to have to change," Fohsage told his parishioners. "Change our hearts and our minds."

As Fohsage spoke at Saturday evening mass, King's prosecutor, Guy James Gray, listened with bowed head,

his wife, Mary, by his side.

Not 20 feet away, in another pew, sat King's ailing father, Ronald King.

"We pray for Bill King, that the Lord helps him seek forgiveness," Fohsage said. "We pray for Ronald King who was so deeply humiliated and grieved. We pray for the Byrd family."

For Fohsage, these past eight months have tested many people's faith and capacity for love.

"What he did," Fohsage said of King after the mass, "is deserving of hell."

But Fohsage said the church has an obligation to both the victim's family and the relatives of the perpetrator.

"I just don't believe in the death penalty," Fohsage said. "But they (the King family) have the right to demand the death penalty."

At Byrd's parents' church, Greater New Bethel Baptist Church, the Rev. Kenneth Lyons also used this week's events as a sermon.

"We must agree this morning that a few months ago we had a very horrible tragedy occur in our town. It was an event that shocked Jasper, the country and the world," Lyons said.

The Rev. Richard Bishop, pastor of the nondenominational Church on the

Rock, spoke of racism Sunday in his weekly radio show, which airs in Texas and six other states. He talked of the notoriety Byrd's dragging death has brought to Jasper.

"There are those outsiders who have judged the whole town by the actions of only three suspects," Bishop said.

Bishop said that when he moved to Jasper in 1985, he was pleased to find the town's residents trying hard to create racial harmony.

"It's the only town we have ever

lived in where it was not even noticed when our children would bring home friends of a different race or color to an all-white neighborhood," he said.

At the Jasper United Pentecostal Church, Senior Pastor Malcolm Seal did not discuss the trial in his sermon.

"I have to be very careful about what I say out of concern for them," Seal said.

They're human beings, and I'm concerned for their welfare as well. They didn't commit any crime. They're victims."

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• Supt. Aaron Williams, Mansfield, OH  
• Elder Currie Giddens, 1st Jurisdiction  
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## To change the world, we must first change ourselves

By Junious Ricardo Stanton

"But the struggle to change systems — structures and values — must begin with the struggle to change ourselves, i.e. our own views and values and the negative and non-productive ways we've organized and live our daily lives."

Only then can we create the social force we need to defy and defeat our oppressor. Regardless of what the dogmatists of the left and right declare, real social change will not be a product of new social institutions, but new men and women to shape those new institutions in their own interests and image." — Maulana Karenga

Many people believe the saying "you are what you eat." However, if the food and drink we take into our bodies is important, think how important the ideas, values, beliefs, priorities and things we hold dear to us are in shaping our perspective, behavior, lifestyle and world. The great secret of being in life is lived from the inside out. Our thoughts and feelings create an aura around us that people can feel. Our thoughts, beliefs and feelings create our environment. Most people don't realize this or the few who do tend to take the information for granted or we are unable to use this information into our daily regimen. This ignorance and our inability to synthesize the inner dynamic into conscious decisions is what keeps us impotent, enslaved and impoverished. Too many of us have given up hope. We no longer see the need to struggle to free ourselves from psycho-spiritual subordination, conformity and Pavlovian manipulation.

The key to liberation is unleashing our minds, freeing how we think and assuming control over our cognitive processes. True freedom is being in control of your own mind. Freedom requires courage and diligence to actualize, maintain and preserve it. Courage is having the audacity to think and act in your best interests despite formidable opposition and resistance.

Thoughts are things. Our thinking generates energy. There is an ancient axiom that says energy follows thought. This is true. Thinking and negative thinking are measured by machines that record brain waves.

Thoughts have power in and of themselves. They have power to generate responses that create change. If you can control a man or woman's thinking, you can dictate, predict, plot and plan the parameters of his or her ambition, striving and existence. So, in the final analysis, our struggle is not just against White supremacy, capitalism, communism, racism, sexism, age, color and class bias. The penultimate struggle is with ourselves. The struggle is to transform ourselves by revising our thinking, altering our ideas about ourselves and actualizing our potential.

In order to improve our immediate environment we must first examine what in our core beliefs is holding us down, limiting us and sabotaging our development. Once we identify the negative values and beliefs we must begin upon them by substituting life-affirming and empowering ideas, values, expectations and actions.

When we redefine ourselves as spiritual beings and accept the fact that we are endowed with awesome potential and an obligation to manifest that potential for the benefit of the human collective, we will undergo a metamorphosis. We will begin the arduous process of substituting positive and productive lifestyles for the negative and non-productive ways we currently organize and live our lives.

Change is never easy, replacing old habits and patterns can be difficult. However, if we are to transform ourselves, heal our environment and world, we must muster the courage and determination to change ourselves.

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**CITY NEWS**  
call 908-754-3400

## Health Calendar

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10

**JERSEY CITY** — Jersey City Medical Center is pleased to announce the beginning of a support group for newly diagnosed breast cancer patients from 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. (201) 915-2273.

**TEANECK** — Holy Name Hospital is offering an eight week Bereavement Support Group for adults who have recently experienced the death of someone close to them beginning at 10 a.m. (201) 837-3740, ext. 2766.

**BELLE MEAD** — The Resource Center for Women and Their Families will offer a 40 hour training course in protection against domestic violence beginning at 9 a.m. (908) 359-0003.

### THURSDAY, MARCH 11

**TEANECK** — The NJ Chapter of the Arthritis Foundation and the Holy Name Hospital invite you to attend a free lecture on "Advances in Arthritis Management" beginning at 7:30 p.m. at the hospital's Marian Hall, 718 Teaneck Road.

**NEW YORK** — Hepatitis C and harm reduction seminar featuring Sharon Stanfield, MD, and Dan Bigg, director of Chicago Recovery Alliance, will begin at 4 p.m. at the Open Society Institute (212) 549-0695.

**PLAINFIELD** — The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive at the ARCEUC Chapter beginning at 1 p.m. (908) 756-6414.

**MONTCLAIR** — Montclair State University will offer two allied health care programs beginning at 7 p.m. (973) 655-4333.

### FRIDAY, MARCH 12

**PLAINFIELD** — The Plainfield Senior Citizens Center will hold a discussion on senior health beginning at 12 p.m. (908) 753-3000.

### SATURDAY, MARCH 13

**LITTLE FALLS** — Open blood drives will be sponsored by The Blood Center of New Jersey at Masonic Little Falls Lodge, 14 Lincoln Ave., from 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. (908) 256-6363.

**TEANECK** — Holy Name Hospital will hold a two-part seminar on anger at the hospital's Marian Hall beginning at 1 p.m. (201) 833-3186.

### TUESDAY, MARCH 16

**TEANECK** — Holy Name Hospital will offer massage therapy sessions at the hospital's Health Service Building beginning at 1 p.m. (201) 837-1850.

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17

**JERSEY CITY** — Jersey City Medical Center will offer a support group for breast cancer survivors at the hospital's conference room beginning at 6 p.m. (201) 915-2273.

### THURSDAY, MARCH 18

**PHILIPSBURG** — Planned Parenthood of Greater Northern New Jersey Inc. will hold a conference on relationships for the new century with guest speaker Robert Silverstein, PhD at the Holiday Inn beginning at 9 a.m. (201) 469-1205.

**TEANECK** — Holy Name Hospital will offer a course in Tai Chi Chih at the hospital's Health Service Building beginning at 10 a.m. (201) 833-3186.

### FRIDAY, MARCH 19

**PLAINFIELD** — The Plainfield Senior Citizens Service Center will offer blood pressure screenings for senior citizens beginning at 10 a.m. (908) 753-3506.

**TEANECK** — Holy Name Hospital will offer free blood pressure screenings at the hospital's Health Service Building beginning at 1 p.m. (201) 837-1850.

### TUESDAY, MARCH 23

**TEANECK** — Holy Name Hospital presents a free lecture on diabetes and treatment at the Pathmark Supermarket in Bergenfield beginning at 7 p.m. (201) 833-3186.

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 24

**SOUTH PLAINFIELD** — The Center Foundation will offer a free educational program on parenting skills at the South Plainfield Center beginning at 5 p.m. (908) 769-7070.

### THURSDAY, MARCH 25

**GREENBROOK** — The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive at the Greenbrook Manor Nursing Home beginning at 4 p.m. (908) 756-8414.

### SATURDAY, MARCH 27

**TEANECK** — Holy Name Hospital will offer a CPR training course for adults and infants at the hospital's Nursing School Center beginning at 9 a.m. (201) 833-3186.

## HIV hits minorities hard

*Infected needles is a major cause in the six percent increase in NJ*

**PRINCETON** — The number of persons living with HIV in New Jersey increased by 6 percent in the year ending December 1998, according to an analysis of newly released New Jersey Dept. of Health and Senior Services data on HIV/AIDS. The analysis was carried out by the Dogwood Center of Princeton, an independent research organization.

Eighteen of New Jersey's 21 counties showed an increase in HIV cases over the previous year, with Sussex/Morris, Bergen and Warren showing increases of 10 percent or more. Over half of all persons with HIV live in Essex, Hudson and Passaic counties.

Over half of all HIV cases in New Jersey at the end of 1998 were directly related to the use of HIV-infected needles. HIV spread through heterosexual sex accounted for an additional 25 percent of HIV cases, in most instances infecting the sexual partners (mainly women) of current or former drug users.

"New Jersey's drug-related HIV epidemic is continuing," said Dr. Dawn Day, author of the analysis. "The scientific evidence shows clearly that the spread of drug-related HIV can be slowed through the use of needle exchange programs, without increasing drug use."

The failure to prevent new HIV cases is costly both in human suffering and health care dollars. When combination treatment of the new HIV cases begins, the total cost of the treatment for

New Jersey counties ranked by percent change in number of persons living with HIV from December 31, 1997 to December 31, 1998			
County of residence	Persons with HIV as of 12/31/98	Percent change from 12/97 to 12/98	
Sussex	42	35	
Morris	173	22	
Bergen	378	12	
Warren	52	10	
Ocean	203	9	
Essex	4,113	8	
Mercer	493	7	
Hudson	1,571	6	
Union	854	6	
Middlesex	572	5	
Camden	553	5	
Atlantic	655	4	
Monmouth	670	4	
Salem	76	4	
Burlington	185	3	
Somerset	129	3	
Passaic	1,041	3	
Cumberland	186	2	
Cape May	83	0	
Gloucester	99	-2	
Hunterdon	29	-9	
Incarcerated	678	4	
Unknown County	46	24	
<b>Total</b>	<b>12,858</b>	<b>6</b>	

Source: Analysis by the Dogwood Center of data published by the New Jersey Department of Health and Senior Services. Release date 2/26/99.

these newly infected individuals will cost over nine million dollars a year.

## Study: Doctor prejudice may be a factor in heart care

By Linda A. Johnson  
Associated Press Writer

Unconscious prejudices among doctors may explain why black and white patients with chest pain are less likely than men and whites to receive the best cardiac testing, researchers suggested in a new study recently published.

Researchers have found such differences in care before, attributing them to financial barriers and differences in patients' preferences, medical condition and access to care.

However, the new study of 720 physicians found that, with all symptoms being equal, doctors were only 60 percent as likely to order cardiac catheterization for women and blacks as for men and whites.

For black women, the doctors were only 40 percent as likely to order catheterization, considered the "gold standard" diagnostic test for heart disease. It involves squirting dye into cardiac arteries, then X-raying them to find blockages and determine the best treatment.

"Most likely this is an underestimate of what's occurring," Dr. Kevin Schulman of Georgetown University Medical Center said, because the doctors knew their decisions were being recorded, though not why.

In the unusual study, doctors attending medical conferences were told they were participating in a study of clinical decision making, and viewed medical data and a taped interview with one of eight "patients." The patients were really actors.

There were two black women, two black men, two white women and two white men, divided into two identical groups. In one group, all the patients were said to be 55; in the other group, 70.

The actors described identical symptoms. Information such as insurance coverage, profession and results of a heart stress test also were the same.

Still, researchers found disparities in treatment recommendations. "We still need to understand a lot more about why these differences occur," Schulman said. "This may all be subconscious."

The research was reported in the New England Journal of Medicine.

Another journal report suggests that black patients with congestive heart failure have a higher risk of death or worsening disease than whites get similar treatment.

In congestive heart failure, the heart's ability to pump blood gradually declines, causing pain, shortness of breath and other symptoms.

Researchers at the National Heart,

Lung and Blood Institute, examining data from an earlier study, found 42 percent of blacks treated for such symptoms died, compared with 36 percent of whites. For patients with the disease but no symptoms yet, 22 percent of blacks died vs. 14 percent of whites.

Previous studies found higher death rates for blacks, but cited factors such as differences in disease severity or access to care.

## Black health workers fight exploding AIDS racial divide

By Lauran Neergaard

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Black Americans are becoming infected with AIDS at record rates, receiving poorer care than whites and dying faster.

Now, almost two decades into the AIDS epidemic, about 1,000 health care providers and activists gathered for the first medical conference on AIDS among black Americans — a frantic hunt for ways to fight the exploding racial divide.

AIDS in the United States is evolving from a disease that once mostly afflicted white homosexuals into one largely of poor blacks, often infected from dirty drug needles or heterosexual encounters.

Blacks make up 12 percent of the U.S. population but a devastating 45 percent of new AIDS cases. AIDS has been the leading killer of blacks between 25 to 44 for most of the decade. One in 50 black men and one in 160 black women are estimated to be infected.

"This is an historic event," Phill Wilson of the National Black Lesbian and Gay Leadership Forum told the conference Thursday. "What we do... will determine whether or not we make a difference."

"This is no less a daunting challenge than we faced in the civil rights movement," added Dr. Stephen Thomas of Emory University.

The doctors, social workers and activists sought practical, day-to-day advice on fighting HIV, the AIDS virus, in communities often wracked by poverty and drugs, where a legacy of racism has left distrust of the medical system.

How do you get a drug user or a homeless person tested for HIV? How do you treat the hotel maid who can't afford the time off to go to a clinic only open weekdays? You're surprised that the bus driver quit taking the AIDS medicine you prescribed — even though the main side effect was diarrhea?

"We're talking about reaching... people who might not have had a meal since noon yesterday, and they're still sitting in the clinic" for four hours because the doctor overbooked, complained Debra Hickman of Baltimore's Sisters Together and

Reaching.

Then came the thorny issue of preventing and treating HIV in prisons. "Our men are in the jails. They do come home with their wives and girlfriends," warned a California AIDS worker, describing one reason HIV infection is growing fast among black women.

Not do many black doctors specialize in AIDS, complained a Colorado nurse who described herself as the only black AIDS health worker in her town. While doctors "do care, but they don't understand when I say, 'Patients don't trust you.'"

President Clinton has declared AIDS among minorities a crisis. The administration is spending \$156 million this year and seeking \$171 million next year to fight back.

But Clinton last year refused to use federal money to buy clean needles for drug addicts, one way to prevent HIV's spread. Frustrated at the ban, administration doctors urged local communities Thursday to raise the money themselves for needle exchanges.

And critics questioned if the government's work is fair. One new program calls for 35 percent of AIDS research sites to be in minority communities, but two-thirds of new infections now occur in those communities.

The conference's main goal was to empower workers on the front lines of AIDS, providing information and resources to help their communities, said Cornelius Baker of the National Association of People With AIDS.

He said, "We need to make care more culturally appropriate. Maybe clinics need Sunday hours, or you could give health care at church after Sunday services."

And grass-roots doctors who don't often get to the fancy national AIDS meetings hungered for the latest data, questioning experts on which drugs to use.

Newly infected patients with low HIV levels might be all right not starting drugs for a while. Got a patient who won't swallow 15 pills a day? Some new drugs require far fewer.

But there were no easy solutions.

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**African American Breast Cancer Survivors**

The Cancer Institute of New Jersey sponsors free monthly breast cancer screening. We are seeking African American breast cancer survivors to teach other African American women ways to detect breast cancer at early stages.

The program is offered on the second Tuesday of each month at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital and Medical School in New Brunswick.

Volunteers receive free training and \$15 per session. Please call Tiffany Kunz at (732) 235-6048 for more information.

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Children Under 18 Years Old

## Billboard

### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 10

**NEWARK** — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJ-PAC) presents the play *Two Sisters* and a Piano beginning at 7:30 p.m. 1-888-GO-NJ-PAC.

**NEW YORK** — Women of Color Productions presents their First Annual Women in the Arts Festival at The Abrons Arts Center. Call (212) 501-3542 for info.

### FRIDAY, MARCH 12

**NEWARK** — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJ-PAC) presents the legendary Chitlins beginning at 8 p.m. 1-888-GO-NJ-PAC.

**NEW BRUNSWICK** — The Crossroads Theater presents the 10th Annual Gershwin Festival, focusing on the new works by African American writers. Call (732) 249-5590 for info.

**RAHWAY** — Urban County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs presents jazz artist Walt Bonger at the Arts Guild Center beginning at 7:30 p.m. (732) 499-8220.

**POMONA** — The Stokard Performing Arts Center presents an all-star tribute concert for bluesman Muddy Waters. Call (909) 652-9000 for info.

### SATURDAY, MARCH 13

**NEWARK** — The New Jersey Performing Arts Center (NJ-PAC) presents The Los Angeles Philharmonic beginning at 8 p.m. 1-888-GO-NJ-PAC.

**MURRAY HILL** — The Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs presents pianist Christopher Gilles at the Burlington Hall beginning at 3 p.m. (908) 709-0700.

### SUNDAY, MARCH 14

**RAHWAY** — The Union County Division of Cultural and Heritage Affairs presents the award-winning musical *The Wizard of Oz* at the UC Arts Center beginning at 3 p.m. (732) 499-8220.

### SUNDAY, MARCH 21

**NEW BRUNSWICK** — Makeda Ethiopian Restaurant presents a fashion show featuring the works of fashion designer Mischaun beginning at 5:30 p.m. (732) 748-1914.

## South Africans confront the brutal legacy of Apartheid in facing the truth with Bill Moyers

NEW YORK—South Africans are on a truth-telling mission. As part of the negotiated settlement that led to the end of apartheid and the election of Nelson Mandela as president, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission was established by the South African Government to investigate the crimes committed between 1960 and 1994 during the fight against apartheid. Hailed worldwide as a model for airing gross violations of human rights without resorting to Nuremberg-style trials, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission was seen by many in South Africa as a means of healing the wounds of history. "We needed to acknowledge that we had a horrendous past," said the TRC chairman, Desmond Tutu. "We needed to look the beast in the eye, so that the past wouldn't hold us hostage anymore."

After more than two years of hearings, the Commission published findings compiled from the testimony of more than 21,000 victims. Amnesty hearings continue after so much cruelty, healing will be difficult. "Don't look for somebody else to be the one who is going to do the reconciliation," he urged his fellow South Africans. "Each

South African is going to have to say, 'What is the contribution I am going to be making to what will be a national project?'"

For the moment, in the aftermath of the hearings, South Africans are living in an echo chamber of horrors, having listened week after week to a sound-track of human tragedy. The stories that emerge from the hearings are a litany of detentions, abductions, beatings, burnings, torture, rape, and murder. One by one, in some of the most powerful and cathartic television footage ever broadcast, the victims of apartheid and their families look perpetrators in the eye and ask them to admit and regret their actions. For some victims, it is the first time to confront their torturers in the daylight, face to face. For others, whose family members disappeared and were never heard from again, it is the opportunity finally to know the truth about how their loved ones died, and to ask the most commonly-heard question during the hearings: "May we have the bones back?"

As the Commission moved toward its conclusion, journalist Bill Moyers and producer-director Gail Pelett went among the peo-



As he reports on South Africa's efforts to overcome the bitter legacy of apartheid, journalist Bill Moyers discusses the goals of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission with chairman, Archbishop Desmond Tutu. Moyers and Pelett went among the people of South Africa to report on the throes of a nation trying to understand the "unspeakable evils" of the past. Their stunning stories told by blacks and whites, victims

30, from 9-11 p.m. (ET) on PBS (check local listings). Presented on PBS by Thirteen/WNET in New York, **FACING THE TRUTH WITH BILL MOYERS** is produced by Public Affairs Television, Inc. Funding is provided by W.K. Kellogg Foundation, Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, and Mutual of America Life Insurance Company.

"Millions of Americans were caught up in the struggle to end apartheid," according to Moyers. "Through direct action supporting the struggle for democracy, through efforts to persuade corporations, universities and foundations to divest in the racist South African regime, and through intervention by politicians from Robert Kennedy to Andrew Young to Jesse Helms and Patrick Buchanan, the United States and South Africa became deeply entangled in the second half of the 20th Century. There were images of our own nation. America is still wrestling with its own heritage of discrimination and injustice. We thought that by looking at South Africa's attempt to move beyond a racially divided society to reconcile and forgive the past-we might learn something for our own future."

## Musician pens humorous yet insightful book on ebonics

CENTURY CITY, Calif.—D. Munyungo Jackson is the epitome of rhythm, a world-traveled percussionist whose melodic stylings have added magic to the songs of legends like Stevie Wonder, Miles Davis, Sting and Aretha Franklin. Check your albums; he's sure to be credited on many of them.

Utilizing his extra-life gift for rhythm as he crosses over into the literary world, Jackson has authored his first book, *The Nu Naybahood Functio Ebonic Dictionary*. A hilarious yet insightful reference source, "The dictionary docu-



D. Munyungo Jackson

ments the beauty of the Black English language better known as Ebonics. With humorous illustrations provided by his son, Darryl "Wolf" Jackson, Jr., the text transcends generations and cultural boundaries.

While providing key referrals for everyday speaking habits, Jackson pokes lighthearted fun at what has been a most controversial topic.

"Language is music," he says. "And when you really listen to it, black folk have perhaps the most lyrical and poetic language on the planet. As a percussionist, I realize that rhythm flows through everything. When it comes to Ebonics, the many and various rhythms are definitely there!"

Starting with the letter A, as in "Don't be aahhh! (acting like no fool)" through the letter Z, as in

"Zat (Is that) alright with you?" Jackson tactically highlights the nuances of the language. Full ebonic sentences are rendered along with the "proper" English translation. Under the letter U, we find: U-boutha, as in "Hey! Ay gotta git inna bathroom!" U-bouthu! Translation: I got to get in the bathroom. Are you about though?"

From one generation to the next, African Americans have passed down a unique language of expression. It dates back to the time of slavery, when in an effort to pay homage to Africa Blacks blended indigenous speech patterns with the King's English. This helped maintain a sense of identity.

In light of the terms many of us unconsciously use every day, we come to terms with the fact that this language was used as abuse rather than honor.

## New kid under the big top



Ringmaster Jonathan Lee Iverson

When the 129th Edition of Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey, hoped-on Christmas night, a new and beautiful voice an operatic tenor — carried through the Big Top in Tampa, Florida, grabbing the audience of all ages. Under the spotlights, in a red, sparkling vest and black topcoat, 23-year-old, six-foot-three Jonathan Lee Iverson began his professional entertainment career in a fashion he had never dreamed of would — as *The Ringmaster* for *The Greatest Show On Earth*.

In a moment he will never forget, Iverson captured the audience as he delivered the first song on opening night. "Welcome to the World of the Circus," all while lights flashed, the music played, acrobats and clowns circled around, and the animals and their trainers paraded around the rings. He then welcomed the audience with his powerful and convincing voice, "Ladies and gentlemen, children of aaaaaaahhh!... The Greatest Show On Earthaaaaaahhh!"

The son of a postal worker and a firefighter, Iverson was born and raised in Manhattan and began performing at age 11 with the world-famous and prestigious Boys Choir of Harlem. It was with *The Boys Choir* that he received his formal and intense voice training and where he was groomed to use the skills of charm and self-expression through the art of music.

He traveled around the world with the choir and experienced what few children are privy to, for example, seeing Placido Domingo perform in Japan and singing at the intermission for Luciano Pavarotti's Concert in Central Park.

After attending the Fiorello H. La Guardia High School of Music and Art and Performing Arts in Manhattan, he won scholarships for the Hart School of Music, where he continued his voice training studies. But his plans for graduate study and travel were interrupted when he landed a role in *The Firebird Christmas Show* directed by Phil McKinley. McKinley was immediately impressed with Iverson and invited him to audition for the position of Ringmaster.

"I was just planning to earn some extra cash to travel with - I never anticipated that I would be invited to an audition for this incredible role," says Iverson. "But I knew that this was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity and I went for it."

He was up against 29 other aspiring Ringmasters, but Proctor Kenneth Field and McKinley believed that Iverson was undoubtedly the one for the role.

## African Heritage Network



## Above The Rim

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PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that sealed proposals will be received by the Housing Authority of the Town of Boonton (hereinafter called the Authority), in the County of Morris, State of New Jersey, at the Administrative Office of the Authority, located at 125 Chestnut Street, Boonton, New Jersey, on March 26, 1999, at 10:00 a.m. prevailing time. The Authority reserves the right to waive any informalities in bids and to reject any and all bids if it is in the best interest of the Authority to do so. A pre-bid meeting will be held at 9:30 a.m. on March 10, 1999, at the Authority's Administrative Office at 125 Chestnut Street.

Separate sealed bids for:

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\$200,000 - \$400,000	\$20,000
over \$400,000	5%

Bids must be accompanied by a certified surety regularly licensed as a surety or Bid Bond is submitted. All bonds and contents of surety must be written by sureties companies listed in the most recent Circular No. 570, United States Department of the Treasury.

The Contract Documents will be available on February 23, 1999, and are on file, and may be picked-up or examined at the Administrative Office of the Authority. Copies of the Contract Documents may also be obtained at said office upon payment by check or bank draft in the amount of \$75.00 payable to the "Boonton Housing Authority" for each set. **DOCUMENTS WILL NOT BE MAILED. PAYMENT FOR DOCUMENTS IS NON-REFUNDABLE.**

The Successful Bidder will be required to furnish an acceptable Performance and Labor and Material Payment Bond, written by a surety listed in the most recent Circular No. 570, United States Department of the Treasury, as the Authority may prescribe and with such sureties as they may approve.

All Bidders must be authorized to do business in New Jersey. Any Bidder which is a corporation not chartered under the laws of the State of New Jersey, must submit an affidavit certifying that said corporation is authorized to do business in the State of New Jersey. Bidders are required to comply with the requirements of Public Law 1975, 1127 which pertains to "Non-Discrimination" and "Affirmative Actions," and Public Law 1977, c.33, which requires a "Statement of Corporate Ownership."

Sherry L. Bime  
Executive Director  
Boonton Housing Authority

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The Housing Authority of the City of New Brunswick is seeking proposals from qualified vendors to provide a comprehensive software system. Vendors must have at least five (5) years of Housing experience and provide no less than 10 clients using the system for a minimum of 11 years. All Housing software must be 2000 compliant and be a true Windows based product. The software must also utilize a multi-user database. RFP documents can be obtained during normal business hours, Monday thru Friday at the office of the Housing Authority of the City of New Brunswick, 71 Nelson Street, New Brunswick, New Jersey. There shall be no telephone inquiries accepted. All documents should be picked up by a representative of the vendor. All proposals are due on or before 4:00 p.m. prevailing time on Monday, March 15, 1999.

### NOTICE FOR ARCHITECTS/ENGINEERS

The Housing Authority of the City of Salem is inviting submissions from professional architectural/engineering firms for HUD funded comprehensive grant program (COP) improvements. The scope of work includes: Replace entrance doors, secure crawl spaces and upgrade exterior electric panels at NJ 58-1A, West Side Court and paint apartments and halls at NJ 58-1B, Broadway Towers. The scope of service includes: preparation of plans and specifications, assisting the authority in awarding bids, inspection of construction unit completion.

Submittals will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

	WEIGHT
1. Professional and technical experience	15
2. Professional and technical competence	20
3. Past performance in terms of cost control, quality of work and performance schedules	20
4. Capability to provide services in a timely manner	15
5. Knowledge of local building practices and HUD requirements	5
6. Stability and MBE practices	5
7. Fee proposal	20

All submittals must include evidence the architectural/engineering firm is licensed in New Jersey and certification that the firm principals or staff have not been disbarred or suspended from practice by any federal, state or local agency.

An non-mandatory site inspection is scheduled for 10:00 A.M. March 11, 1999 for all interested firms. Interested firms should respond by 10:00 A.M. March 18, 1999 to Ruth O. Gross, Executive Director, Housing Authority of the City of Salem, 205 Seventh Street, Salem, New Jersey 08075.  
Ruth O. Gross  
PHM Executive Director

### ACCREDITATION SURVEY OF UMDNJ-UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL

The Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) will conduct an accreditation survey of UMDNJ-University Hospital on April 6-9, 1999. The purpose of the survey will be to evaluate the organization's compliance with nationally established Joint Commission standards, which deal with quality of care issues and the safety of the environment. Anyone believing that he/she has pertinent information about such matters may request a public information interview with the JCAHO representatives at the time of the survey.

For information on how to request an interview, you may visit University Hospital's website at [www.umdj.edu/univhosp/](http://www.umdj.edu/univhosp/) or call (732) 972-6273.

\$38.29

### PUBLIC HEARING 1999 COMPREHENSIVE GRANT PROGRAM

The Housing Authority of the Township of Woodbridge will hold a public hearing to present its proposed 1999 Comprehensive Grant Program application on Wednesday, April 7, 1999 at 8:00 PM at the Charles Mohr Community Center, 19 Burns Lane, Woodbridge, N.J. Comprehensive Grant Funding is used to maintain the Authority's public housing stock and ensure its viability for future use.

Peter J. Anasta  
Executive Director \$20.81

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# Local organizers unite for Mumia

NEWARK — The Greater Newark Millions For Mumia Local Organizing Committee announced that it has secured the endorsement of two prominent area activists for the upcoming Millions For Mumia International Rally slated for April 24 in Philadelphia.

Lawrence Hamm, longtime chairman of the People's Organization for Progress (POP) and just recently the former co-chairman of the NJ Million Man March Coalition, has proudly announced his support for the rally.

Hamm, who helped coordinate and mobilize over 20,000 men from New Jersey for the epic Million Man March, will serve as an outreach consultant for local forces. He was to begin meeting with organizers this week.

"This brother (Hamm) is a valuable resource for our people in this community. We anxiously await his suggestions for us," exclaimed Zayid Muhammad, a spokesman for the Greater Newark LOC.

DeLacy Davis and Black Cops Against Police Brutality (BCAP) have also endorsed the rally, organizers announced. Davis and BCAP are sustaining a courageous response to police brutality within the ranks of the police, especially in the greater Newark area. They have also become a key resource on this highly traumatic front.

BCAP, a national group of black police officers and the New Jersey Coalition Against Police Brutality have all condemned the police killing of African immigrant Amadou Diallo in New York.

Organizers are exploring doing some police brutality seminars with BCAP in preparation for the rally in early April.

Organizers also proudly hailed the success of the Feb. 26 Town Hall Meeting for Mumia in New York City, which included the presence of the indomitable Geronimo Ji Jaga (Print), who endured 27 years of wrongful

incarceration for his work with the Black Panther Party, and the agitated Geronimo Davis.

Now 51, Davis, a much-heralded veteran of the stage and screen and the civil rights movement who traces his own activism back to the days of the famous Newark rally, told the standing-room-only audience in an urgent, fatherly tone that he intends to help make Mumia's case "a matter of concern for every breakfast table in the country."

Supporters say that the government is not just trying to kill an innocent man, but officials are seeking to use his case to create an environment of intimidation and fear within minority communities.

On April 24, 1996, President Clinton signed into law the "Expedited Death Penalty Act," which directs federal courts to accept the rulings of state courts in capital cases. Ironically, April 24 is also the birth date of the condemned journalist.

The Greater Newark LOC also announced that it has already secured the support of organizations like Black Nia Force, Uhuru, Women In Support of The Million Man March (WISOMM), African Echoes, the Pan-African Muslim Movement and the African Globe Studio.

On the student front, the Black Student Union of William Paterson University held their own rally for Abu-Jamal recently on their campus.

The LOC and the African Globe are preparing to bring together area activists to come out for Abu-Jamal at the Globe Studios in Newark on April 2.

The Greater Newark Local Organizing Committee meets every Tuesday at the WISOMM Mansion, 53 Lincoln Park, Newark at 7 p.m. Organizations, businesses, churches and mosques wishing to endorse the rally may call (973) 624-1440.



Revolutionary journalist Mumia Abu-Jamal

## Coors salutes contributors to basketball

EDISON — The centerpiece of Coors Brewing Company's celebration of 1999 Black History Month, is "Passing Glory," a salute to those African-American players, coaches and people behind the scenes who have made a difference to and through basketball. The program includes a sweepstakes and radio tie-ins such as this one in which Mac Davis, and Jeff Fox, on-air personality at WBLS-FM RADIO, based in New York City, look over the Coors Light "Passing Glory" poster.

In the sweepstakes, displays at retail offer lucky adult consumer winners a trip to Magic Johnson's Midsummer Night's Magic's UNCF all-star basketball charity extravaganza in Los Angeles. Basketball legend Earl "The Pearl" Monroe is making appearances to promote the "Passing Glory" promotion at retail outlets in New Jersey.



Mac Davis (left) joins on-air personality Jeff Fox during a Black History Month Celebration.

## NJ schools will rewrite history

TRENTON — Assembly Education Committee approved a measure Assemblyman William D. Payne sponsored that would establish a 21-member "Amistad Commission" to review education and public-awareness programs about the history of slavery in America and the post-slavery triumphs of African-Americans, which will be incorporated into the regular school curriculum.

The new state-wide commission also would be responsible for developing general public awareness programs about the history of racism in America, the efforts to eliminate and eradicate racism in our society, and the many noteworthy contributions African-Americans have made in building this country.

The Amistad Commission named in honor of a group of enslaved Africans who successfully gained their freedom by overthrowing the crew of the slave cargo ship Amistad and later had their case for freedom successfully argued before the United States Supreme Court would have a broad range of responsibilities, notably, helping to develop improved education programs to teach public and private school children about the history of slavery in America.

"We're not seeking revisionism with this legislation, we're seeking accuracy about the totality of the history of slavery and African-Americans," said Payne.

"The unique cruelties of this country's slave trade - which separated families - are often ignored or given scant attention in New Jersey classrooms," said Payne. "Students need to learn the horrors their ancestors faced and overcome and should realize the significance of African-American contributions to the development of our society."

Payne said the lack of knowledge of African-American achievements is a contributing factor in the unwarranted negative outlook and the lack of self-esteem and pride that many young African-Americans have about themselves and their place in history.

"These young people have never been taught about the instances of courage exhibited by their enslaved ancestors," said Payne. "They don't know the names of their heroes who fought slavery, or that thousands of black men fought in the Revolutionary and Civil Wars, or that their ancestors brought a wealth of talents with them to the New World. This lack of awareness of their achievements has often resulted in feelings of confusion and shame."

Payne added, "This bill will help to instill pride and develop self-esteem among minority youths who may now lack that sense, and may also inspire them to achieve educational excellence and may very well unleash untapped intellect among them."

## Superintendent Hall headed for Atlanta

By Jeffrey Gold

NEWARK (AP) — As a career educator with leading roles in the Newark and New York school systems, Beverly L. Hall says she has learned that improving a big district starts in each building.

"You reform a system one school at a time," said Beverly L. Hall, who is leaving as Newark superintendent for the top job in the Atlanta school district.

School principals can expect scrutiny, Hall said, noting that about half the 82 principals in Newark have been replaced during her four-year tenure, many through retirement.

She was recruited for the Atlanta job during a six-month search for a successor to Benjamin O. Canada, who left in the summer to become superintendent of schools in Portland, Ore.

The Atlanta school board is to vote on her contract March 8, and anticipates she would start work in July.

Hall made \$140,000 a year as

head of the 44,000-student Newark district. She said her salary has not yet been determined in Atlanta, which has \$8,000 students.

The "vast majority" of the new principals in Newark came from within the state's largest school system, she told reporters at a farewell news conference, several days after Atlanta announced her selection.

Hall is the only superintendent the troubled Newark schools have had since the state removed the elected school board and took control of the system. She predicted that test scores continue to improve, local control could return in another four years.

Before coming to Newark, Hall was deputy school chancellor for instruction in the New York City school system, where she spent 25 years. She started as an English teacher there, became a principal and rose through the ranks.

Under her tenure, school attendance rose to 90 percent — a 30-year high — crime was decreased and buildings were renovated, according to the district. Test scores began rising, and



Educator Beverly L. Hall

corporate grants flowed in.

Hall, 50, and her husband live in Scotch Plains. Although she has spent her career in public schools, she said her son, who is to graduate from college this summer, attended private schools.

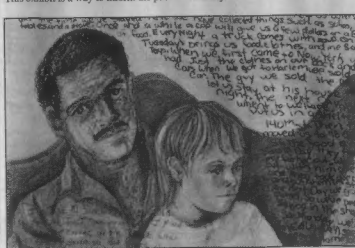
## Local artist puts a face on America's homeless

CRANFORD — From March 12th through April 15th, Union County College's Tonnasulo Gallery will be host to Joan Arbelter's "Street People: Portraits with Biographical Narratives." The exhibit consists of multiple portraits in mixed media on acetate. To develop the exhibit, Arbelter spent time visiting New York City's homeless camps. Her portraits are of individuals she met in the camps and capture their life views. When she began the project, Arbelter would choose a part of her conversation with the person and relate it on the portrait to enhance the relationship between the viewer and the art. As the project progressed, she decided let each individual write their own stories on the portraits, making her exhibit so unique.

"Street People" took more than two years to complete. Using every type of tool available to build up and rework the portrait, she uses pencils, oil, crayon, charcoal or paint. Arbelter used this genre to express her troubled feelings about the homeless situation. Her statements help create a personal connection between the observer and the subject. This exhibit is a way to inform the public about the homeless, especially that many of who are homeless are out on their own because of an economic situation that could befall anyone and seems to get worse each day. Arbelter attempted to put a face on homelessness through her art and in the process found there were a large and complex group of human beings with no stereotypical homeless person.

Having shown her work in more than 190 solo and nearly 100 group shows, Arbelter has a well established reputation around the tri-state area. Her exhibit "Street People" has also been on display at the Douglass College Center, New Brunswick, NJ and the Ceres Gallery, New York City, NY. Arbelter currently teaches at the DuCout School of Art in Newburgh, New York.

The exhibit will debut on Friday, March 12th, 1999, with an opening reception from 7 to 9 p.m. The Tonnasulo Gallery is located on the first floor of the Mackay Library on the campus of Union County College, 1033 Springfield Avenue, Cranford, New Jersey. Gallery hours are from 1 to 4 p.m. on Mondays through Thursdays and on Saturdays.



Joan Arbelter's "Street People" will be on display throughout April.

## Another suspicious blaze hits Plainfield impound lot

PLAINFIELD (AP) — Police are investigating the second suspicious blaze in a month at the city impound lot. Firefighters battled a blaze that heavily damaged several cars late Friday night in a Rock Avenue lot.

At least five cars were still burning late Friday night, said Lt. John Coppola of the Plainfield Fire Department.

The investigation is to continue on Saturday, he said.

The impound lot has been the site of suspicious blazes more than once in the past.

"It was pretty big," Police Sgt. David Guarino said of Friday night's fire. "It was toward the back of the lot, but you could see the flames from Rock Avenue. A lot of smoke, a lot of flames."

Guarino said "it was extinguished fairly quickly" by the fire department. No one appeared to be injured in the fire, he said.

The last blaze at the lot occurred late Jan. 22 when 21 cars were heavily damaged and two others were destroyed. Officials deemed that incident suspicious, and city and Union County arson teams began investigating.

Police said a gas can had been found on the impound lot property after that incident, but they did not say whether it could be linked to the fire.

After that fire, officials had trouble notifying many of the cars' owners because the vehicles were burned beyond recognition.

Most of those cars were old and abandoned, fire officials had said.

The lot is owned and operated by Wiggins Auto Body. It holds abandoned cars as well as recovered stolen vehicles and cars seized during arrests. The Rock Avenue lot also was the site of two fires last spring. Fire officials said because it is located in a wooded area, it has been a popular target for vandals and thieves to strike, officials said.

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